The elements of a Positive No are:
Yes! – Identify and articulate the interests, needs and values to which you are saying "Yes!"
No. – Prepare to deliver in a manner that respects your Yes! and respects the person being told "No."
Yes? – Extend the possibility of finding other ways to work together with a "Yes?" to the relationship.
What is your reaction to your current situation? Why?
Which of your interests, needs and values are impacted here:
What solution meets all these? What are you trying to accomplish?
What is the alternative plan, if the other person does not accept your position?
How do you think the other person is going to respond? What will you do?
What are the other person's interests, needs, and values?
How will I deliver my message? What will I say?
What can the other person and I do together that meets both of our interests, needs and values?
What happens if the other person rejects my offer to work together?